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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Eleventh session
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Agenda item 9
Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on the future work of the Forum

1. The Permanent Forum wishes to express its thanks to the Government of Nicaragua for hosting its 2012 pre-sessional meeting. The Forum also thanks the Governments of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Denmark, Greenland, Norway and Spain for having hosted the Forum's previous pre-sessional meetings, and the Government of the Congo for expressing interest in hosting the 2013 pre-sessional meeting. The Forum requests that the secretariat organize pre-sessional meetings for future sessions of the Forum and urges all Member States that have not considered hosting pre-sessional meetings of the Forum to do so.

2. The Permanent Forum recommends that a meeting additional to the pre-sessional meeting be organized in the fourth quarter of 2013, without any budgetary implications, to discuss methods of work.

3. The Permanent Forum wishes to express its gratitude to those States that have contributed to the Trust Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. The Forum also expresses its concern over the small amount of funds available to support the small grants programme under the Second Decade, as well as the Forum's work and activities. As an illustration of the lack of sufficient funds, pursuant to its 2012 call for proposals, the small grants programme received over 1,000 applications for funding but could support only 6 of the proposed projects.

4. The Permanent Forum welcomes with appreciation the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution 66/141, to request the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a comprehensive report on the rights of the child, with a focus on indigenous children. The Forum wishes to take part in any initiative undertaken by the Secretary-General in preparing the comprehensive report on the rights of the child.

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5. The Permanent Forum also welcomes the interest of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in joining the Inter-Agency Support Group and calls upon the Special Representative to work closely with the members of the Forum in preparing a section on the situation of indigenous children in the Special Representative's annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.

6. The Permanent Forum calls upon Member States, the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, the United Nations funds and programmes, the Inter-Agency Support Group and, in particular, the United Nations country teams, indigenous peoples' organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to report on the implementation of the Forum's recommendations, especially by responding to the questionnaire prepared by the Forum secretariat.

7. The Permanent Forum also calls upon the World Health Organization (WHO) to work in close cooperation with the Forum in establishing a programme on non-communicable diseases, with special attention to indigenous peoples and diabetes. The Forum recognizes the findings of the Expert Meeting on Indigenous Peoples, Diabetes and Development, held in Copenhagen on 1 and 2 March 2012, and its outcome document entitled "The Copenhagen call to action" and recommends that those outcomes be considered when establishing the programme. The Forum appoints Ms. Paimanach Hasteh, member of the Forum, as the focal point for coordination with WHO on this matter.

8. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Eva Biaudet, member of the Forum, to undertake a study on the right to participation in decision-making processes of indigenous youth in the Nordic countries, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

9. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Biaudet to review World Bank operational policies on indigenous peoples and to determine to what extent those policies respect the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with her findings to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

10. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Myrna Cunningham and Mr. Paul Kanyinke Sena, members of the Forum, to undertake a study on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on challenges faced with respect to the full enjoyment of human rights and inclusion in development, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session. Preparation of the report will be supported by the secretariat of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and will include consultations with indigenous persons with disabilities and their representative organizations.

11. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Cunningham and Mr. Kanyinke Sena to undertake a study on the political participation of indigenous women on international, national and local levels, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

12. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Cunningham and Mr. Saul Vicente Vazquez, member of the Forum, to undertake a study, with the assistance of indigenous universities, on how the indigenous knowledge systems, history and the contemporary social circumstances of indigenous peoples are embedded in the curriculum of education systems, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

13. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Megan Davis, member of the Forum, to undertake a study on the impact of the mining boom upon indigenous communities in Australia, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

14. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Anna Naykanchina, Ms. Dalee Sambo Dorough and Mr. Kanyinke Sena, members of the Forum, to undertake a study on resilience, traditional knowledge and capacity-building in Arctic and sub-Arctic indigenous reindeer herding communities and in African indigenous pastoralist communities, with a focus on good practices and opportunities, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

15. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Sambo Dorough and Ms. Davis to undertake a study on an optional protocol to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

16. The Permanent Forum appoints Ms. Valmaine Toki, member of the Forum, to undertake a study on decolonization of the Pacific, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

17. The Permanent Forum has decided to appoint Mr. Raja Devasish Roy and Mr. Simon William M'Viboudoulou, members of the Forum, to conduct a study on best practices and examples in respect of resolving land disputes and land claims, including consideration of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (Philippines) and the Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Dispute Resolution Commission (Bangladesh) and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

18. The Permanent Forum appoints Mr. Edward John, member of the Forum, to conduct a study on the impacts of the Doctrine of Discovery on indigenous peoples, including mechanisms, processes and instruments of redress, with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and particularly to articles 26-28, 32 and 40, to be submitted to the Forum at its thirteenth session in 2014.

19. The Permanent Forum has decided to appoint Mr. John, Mr. Alvaro Pop and Ms. Cunningham, members of the Forum, to conduct a study on the links between indigenous rights, truth commissions and other truth-seeking mechanisms on the American continents, to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

20. The Permanent Forum decides to appoint Mr. Pop to examine the situation of indigenous peoples and their participation in the democracies and electoral processes in Latin America under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with his findings to be submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

21. All of the studies undertaken by the members of the Permanent Forum will be conducted within existing resources and submitted by 31 December 2012. The Forum also takes note of the ongoing studies by its members and commits to ensuring that those studies are completed by 31 December 2012 and submitted to the Forum at its twelfth session.

22. The Permanent Forum urges indigenous peoples' organizations and academic institutions, in particular indigenous peoples' universities, to prepare thematic

studies, within the mandate areas of the Forum, as a contribution to the preparatory processes leading up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014.

23. The Permanent Forum calls upon Member States to ensure that the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) is aligned with the rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

24. The Permanent Forum appreciates the invitation to participate in the Second Continental Summit of Indigenous Communication, to be held in Oaxaca, Mexico, in 2013 and recommends that Forum members Saul Vicente Vazquez and Alvaro Pop attend the Summit.

25. The Permanent Forum invites the World Bank, as well as regional banks, to a half-day in-depth session to review the development and adoption of comprehensive indigenous peoples' policies and mechanisms for the effective engagement and participation of indigenous peoples, consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

26. The Permanent Forum welcomes the cooperation with the World Heritage Committee and recommends that the Committee's advisory bodies to work in close cooperation with the Forum as well as indigenous peoples.

27. The Permanent Forum takes note of the Global Programme for Electoral Cycle Support initiative, with its focus on indigenous women and youth in Latin America, led by the United Nations Development Programme, and appreciates the contributions of donors provided to ensure the success of the Programme. The Forum recommends that Member States, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) support financially this important programme for indigenous women and youth.